

**Office of the Select Board
Office of the Town Manager**



Town of Ayer| Ayer Town Hall| 1 Main Street| Ayer, MA 01432|978-772-8220| www.ayer.ma.us

January 31, 2022

Ayer Community Preservation Committee
c/o Ms. Janet Providakes, Chair
1 Main Street
Ayer, MA 01432

RE: Letter of Support for the Pirone Park Playground Remediation and Replacement Project

Dear Members of Community Preservation Committee,

I am writing this letter in strong support for the Parks Department's CPC application for the Pirone Park Playground Remediation and Replacement Project. This project clearly and best exemplifies the intent and purpose of Community Preservation Funds and will greatly benefit the community at large.

Since its original construction in 1989, the Pirone Park Playground, known as "Kiddie Junction," has benefitted generations of Ayer residents as a community location for youth play, recreation, and community interaction. It is one of the defining elements of Pirone Park and the Town. After 33 years of use, the playground is in need of replacement. Additionally, the structure was constructed in 1989 using pressure treated wood that contained arsenic (this was a common building material of that era). As a result, the playground has been closed to the public recently and the Town is responsible for the remediation of the site in preparation for the construction of a new playground.

The importance of this project to the Town is further exemplified by the recent vote of the Ayer Capital Planning Committee which has recommended \$320,000 for the project to be approved by the Ayer Town Meeting on April 25, 2022. With the additional funding support from the Community Preservation Committee the Town will be able to demolish the existing structure; remediate the site; and construct a new playground facility for generations of Ayer Residents to enjoy for the years to come.

I enthusiastically support this project and this application for Community Preservation Funding. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and support.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Pontbriand
Town Manager

Cc: Ayer Select Board
Ayer Parks Commission